

Appln. No.: 10/748,892  
Amendment Dated March 13, 2006  
Reply to Office Letter of January 11, 2006

PQC-326US

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Appln. No: 10/748,892  
Applicants: Yatao Hu et al.  
Filed: December 30, 2003  
Title: COMPOSITION OF, AND PROCESS FOR USING, SILICA XEROGEL  
FOR BEER STABILIZATION  
TC/A.U.: 1761  
Examiner: Anthony J. Weier  
Confirmation No.: 7428  
Docket No.: PQC-326US

**RESPONSE TO ELECTION REQUIREMENT**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

S I R :

This is in response to the Election Requirement stated in the Office Letter dated **January 11, 2006**.

The Examiner requires that the applicants elect a single disclosed species (either the species of Group A (acid-set xerogel, claims 36 and 44) or Group B (alkaline-set xerogel, claims 37 and 45)) for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held allowable. Applicants elect the species of Group A. Currently, claims 23-26, 31-35, 38-43, and 46-56 are generic. Therefore, claims 23-26, 31-36, 38-44, and 46-56 are readable on the species of Group A. This election is made without traverse.

Respectfully submitted,



Christopher R. Lewis, Reg. No. 36,201  
Attorney for Applicants

CRL/lrb

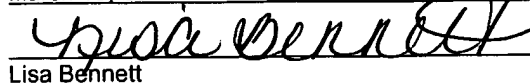
Dated: March 13, 2006

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The Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge payment to Deposit Account No. **18-0350** of any fees associated with this communication.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on:

March 13, 2006

  
Lisa Bennett